

DMIT Telecon 2011-08-03

Attendees

Jeff de La Beaujardiere
Lewis McCulloch
Kevin O'Brien
Roy Mendelssohn
Derrick Snowden
Ken Casey
David Neufeld
Tony Lavoie
Jim Sargent
Steve Hankin
Martin Yapur
Jim Calkins
Tina Chang
Ted Habermann
Chris MacDermaid
Rich Signell (USGS)
Upendra Dadi
Scott Cross

Agenda:

- Setup/roll call (5min)
- How best to utilize the DMIT to advance data management in NOAA (50min)
- Status of current activities (30min @ 5min each):
 - ArcGIS.com Portal proposal.
 - GeoPortal instances at NOAA.
 - UAF phase 2.
 - CMSP Registry
 - IOOS Catalog.
 - EDMC directives
- Scheduling next meeting (5min)

Background & Possible Discussion Topics

DMIT Terms of Reference are at https://geo-ide.noaa.gov/wiki/index.php?title=DMIT_Terms_of_Reference.

- 8-12 members -- should we invite others?
 - Might be worth having more members
 - Is NDBC represented? They should be invited if not.
 - Some potential overlap with GIS Committee
 - May be unwieldy if too many people on telecon/webex
 - DMIT is more overarching, less technical than UAF implementation team.
 - Should focus on making connections between projects.
 - Look for opportunities to make small improvements in interoperability and data integration.
 - What about interacting with other groups & agencies? E.g., USGS has Community for Data Integration.
- 5 years (from May 2006) to "write and implement a plan for integrating data management within NOAA".
 - GEO-IDE ConOps is closest thing to such a plan.

- Is it good enough? Out of date? What else is needed?
- A fine document in its time, but revising it may not be appropriate. Assumed a budget of \$2M/year.
- Recommendation to use data types as organizing principle was and remains valid.
 - e.g., UAF organized around regular grids initially.
- ConOps was a landmark document, and was partially responsible for all changes in NOAA DM that have occurred since then. E.g., DMC -> EDMC, NAO 212-15, procedural directives concept.
- TEchnical details may serve as resource for developing procedural directives.
- Should there be a "Data Integration" proc. dev.
- Good to have core document that lays out the vision. Might need to be revisited to confirm vision. More important to move towards implementation wherever possible.
- DMIT has been an interesting "place" over the years. Should we consider DMIT more as a testbed team for agile prototyping? Cf. UAF project.
- Don't limit DMIT to ConOps and Grand Visions -- let it be a cool place to try out new ideas.
- Role of DMIT should be to identify connections, briefly write up goals regarding such connections, and report back.
- Could follow the OGC Interoperability Experiment approach. ~6mo prototyping. UAF can be thought of as an example.
- DMIT could provide sandbox for these activities.
- Use EDMC as sounding board and as group to socialize the concepts.
- Could we go the other way? DMIT as prototyping forum for EDMC directives.
 - Not a good idea -- this would be third level of bureaucracy (NAO 212-15, then PDs, then a DMIT test). Would prefer to use DMIT to try things out early in the development of the PD.
 - Better: Use DMIT as the technical resource to help groups implementing the PDs.
- E.g., Documentation Directive has (1) responsibilities of agency, (2) resp. of programs, and (3) special problems. The latter refers esp. to various data types, tools, hierarchies. The Special Problems part need teams within NOAA to address those issues. DMIT could facilitate those teams as DMIT WGs.
- PDs were intended to be iterated & refined over time. DMIT could help add more detail & specificity.
- EDMC does not yet know how these PDs are to be implemented. Should identify interesting cross-NOAA problems w/o nec tying them to specific PDs.
- What other existing projects within NOAA could benefit from mutual discussion with DMIT as a forum?
 - Would like DMIT engagement in ArcGIS Portal activity
 - All Special Problems in Data Doc PD.
 - **Data Documentation Directive Special Problems**
 - Dialect Translation/Presentation
 - Metadata Creation and Management Tools
 - Reusable Documentation Components
 - Hierarchical Documentation and Metadata
 - Granules and Collections - YES YES YES
 - Datasets and Services
 - Resource Lineage and Data Quality
 - Implementations of GeoPortal server. Coordination of improvements to GP commissioned, or coded by, NOAA. E.g., improved time handling commissioned by NODC. Need to ensure that improvements are included in distribution and made available to all.
 - DMIT could serve as official POC between NOAA & ESRI for GeoPortal changes.
 - NODC paid for 80hrs of ESRI developer time for FY12 (40 hours for NODC Archive Geoportal, 40 hours for Coral Reef Information System *CoRIS*

- Geoportal).
- NODC led Demo last week of all the changes made with FY11's 20 hours of ESRI Remote Developer Support (and in house efforts). Can we see this? - Yes.
- Emphasized that the service contract was financially reasonable when compared with hiring a contractor (ca. \$4k for 40 hours)
- UAF project - addressing data types one at a time.
- Info sharing/training -- possibly informal -- regarding metadata, TDS, ncML.
- DM Planning activities.
- Should DMIT launch new activities, as it did with UAF?
- DMIT could serve as facilitator to gather funds from multiple sources to serve a common goal
 - e.g., OpenDAP/Unidata grant proposal
- How to interact effectively with OGC? And with Unidata?
- How to leverage ArcGIS Portal contract
 -
- Would like end product to be working code, rather than paper. Want open source implementations.
 - Documentation and training for users interested in the end product should be emphasized as well.

Updates of Projects

- ArcGIS.com Portal proposal
 - Circulated to EDMC, discussed at EDM Conf.
 - Other agencies (EPA, USDA, NGA, DOI, OMB/data.gov) also implementing.
 - NOAA contract funded by OCIO. PO sent today. FFP contract.
 - 4mo to delivery of working portal. Hosted at Amazon Web Services for 12mo.
 - DMIT involvement will be critical.
 - Standards compliance
 - Interoperability with GeoPortal
 - Distributed vs centralized architecture
 - Governance and resource implications.
 - Weekly mtgs of GIS Cmtee . Next Wed 11-12:30 EDT to discuss ArcGIS Portal.
 - Meet w/ESRI staff week after next. Chris(?) Reese, Christine White, Marten Hogeweg.
 - ArcGIS.com = new publicly available web service offering. Not a desktop client. Community to share geospatial offerings. Includes base datasets. Individuals can register & publish on the site. NOAA version will be similar, but have more control over who & what can publish. Cloud-based version of ArcGIS server.
- UAF = Unified Access Framework. Estab by DMIT. All NOAA LOs involved. Grassroots participation.
 - Phase 1: regular grids via NetCDF/CF/DAP + THREDDS Catalog. Demos by Kevin O'Brien at June EDM & December AGU. ncISO to produce ISO MD from THREDDS Catalog. Now want to connect GeoPortal to that metadata collection.
 - Phase 2: in situ observations. Treated as degenerate grids. Collections of multiple obs are inefficient but work. Extension of CF Conventions for discrete geometries to allow single NetCDF file to contain collection. Updating Python & Java API to support. Support for REST-style table output by ERDDAP. Observing System Monitoring Center (OSMC) will be made available as output through ERDDAP as discrete geometries.
 - Can you include URLs for example instances of either the ERDDAP service or the THREDDS example you spoke about?
 - Discovered problems with metadata & data holdings. Dev. catalog cleaner to make improvements. Last update of clean catalog = ? Need to update NODC.
 - New version runs w/DB back-end, not all in memory.
 - Bidirectional interoperability between DAP & SOS not yet established.
 - New TDS release has important changes in ncISO -- see Wiki page.

ACTION: Enable more people in TitanPad.